

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Splicant:

Rizzotto et al.

: Art Unit: 1731

Serial No.:

09/827,686

: Examiner: D. A. Walls

Filed:

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FOR:

CHEWABLE FLAVOR

DELIVERY SYSTEM

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Reference DE 1517334 is not in the English language, but this reference was cited by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of this English language search report, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office is submitted herewith. MPEP Section 609A(3), second paragraph.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing of the above-referenced application.

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A certification can be made that the references were cited in a search report within 3 months. No Final Action or Notice of Allowance has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. Accordingly, the required certification (as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)) is provided herewith.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, an attorney registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, hereby certifies that each reference disclosed in the subject Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Simmons, Reg. No. 24,842

Attorney for Applicants

JCS/mc

Enclosures: PTO Form 1449 Copy of (4) References Search Report

Dated: October 8, 2002

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

Jame C Simmin